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Natural Outlook MONTHLY UPDATE

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Natural Outlook Monthly Update is the TNRCC's monthly publication of environmental issues in Texas with a focus on air quality, water quality, drought, and sunset review. Below is the Web version of the June 2000 issue for your viewing.

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June 2000 Issue



[Don't Be Waterless](#)

The TNRCC and several other state agencies are sponsoring this summer's Water Smart campaign to help water utilities remind customers about water conservation. With rainfall below average in many parts of the state, the public information program will familiarize homeowners and businesses with the need to comply with any water use restrictions imposed in their area.



[States' Rights over Water Quality](#)

In this column, TNRCC Chairman Robert J. Huston calls on the Environmental Protection Agency to allow states to retain flexibility in implementing water quality programs. The chairman writes that he is concerned with proposals to expand federal oversight over state programs striving to restore the quality of rivers, lakes, and streams. If constrained by federal rules, he said, Texas and other states would be

hindered in attempts to design the best solutions for local water quality problems.



Reducing Urban Air Pollution

The Dallas-Fort Worth area could see changes in daily motoring and business activities, under a revised air quality plan crafted by the TNRCC. The proposed measures to reduce air pollution are under review by the Environmental Protection Agency. The comprehensive package includes reduced speed limits and expanded vehicle emissions testing. The TNRCC also recommended new industrial emissions controls in the Beaumont-Port Arthur area. Next, the agency begins updating the air quality improvement plan for Houston-Galveston.

Reporting Made Easier

The TNRCC has established a Web site for receiving reports of smoking vehicles. Go to www.smokingvehicle.org to report instances of excess tailpipe exhaust on city streets or freeways.

The above information is also published as TNRCC print publication PD-020/00-06.

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